In the specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, paragraph 1:

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a method in optical fiber based spectral filtering ~~according to the preamble of the appended claim 1~~. The invention further relates to a spectral filter device implementing the method ~~in accordance with the preamble of the accompanying claim 6~~.

Background of the Invention

Page 2, second full paragraph:

Summary of the Invention

The objective of the present invention is to introduce a new approach that makes it possible to construct optical fiber based spectral filtering devices, whose spectral properties are superior to the prior art devices. Especially, the intention is to achieve filter devices where after the cut-off wavelength the transmission drops down more smoothly than in the prior art devices. Further, one specific objective of the invention is to construct devices, which are also suitable to be used

in the kind of applications, where, in addition to the fiber core, also the cladding layer of the fiber has a role of acting as an optical waveguide. An important example of such application can be found among cladding pumped fiber amplifiers.

Page 2, last paragraph:

~~In order to achieve the aforementioned objectives, the method according to the invention is primarily characterized in what will be presented in the characterizing part of the appended claim 1.~~

Page 3, first paragraph:

~~The device according to the invention is in turn primarily characterized in what will be presented in the characterizing part of the appended claim 6.~~

Page 3, second paragraph:

~~Advantageous embodiments of the invention are presented in the appended dependent claims.~~

Page 4, fourth paragraph:

Brief Description of the Drawings

In the following, the invention will be described in more detail with reference to the appended drawings, in which

Page 5, first paragraph:

Detailed Description of the Invention

The following conceptual explanation is meant to describe, in a simplified way, some of the most important physical phenomena behind the invention. It should be noted that this description is not intended to be scientifically exhaustive, but it is only meant to help recognise the most essential features of the invention.